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Sanguinetti Named to 2015 Aspen-Rodel Fellowship Program

CHICAGO – The Aspen Institute chose Illinois Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti to join the 2015 class of Rodel Fellows.

The Rodel Fellowship program is highly selective and consists of 24 of America's rising governmental leaders. The program aims to enhance democracy by fostering bipartisanship and increasing dialogue within public service.

"I am honored to be included in this distinguished group of men and women throughout the country," Lt. Governor Sanguinetti said. "As the first Latina lieutenant governor in the state of Illinois and throughout the country, I work every day for the betterment of the people of our state. Public service is incredibly rewarding, and I look forward to further engagement on how to more effectively serve the people of Illinois."

"These men and women represent the very best among the new generation of America's political leadership," said Former Congressman and program Director Mickey Edwards. "They have each won the notice and praise of their constituents and their colleagues and have shown a dedication to public service that is an encouraging sign in a time of great challenge. There are now some 200 Rodel Fellows, at all levels of government, working to ensure that Americans receive thoughtful and responsive leadership. We are very proud to have these outstanding leaders join their ranks."

The Rodel Fellowship program is open by invitation only to men and women who are in publicly elected office and who are ideally between the ages of 25 and 50. Selected on an annual basis, each class consists of 24 Fellows, identified by the program's leadership as America's emerging political leaders with reputations for intellect, thoughtfulness, and a commitment to civil dialogue. The 24-month fellowship program consists of three weekend-long seminars, generally held in Aspen, Colorado.

The 2015 Rodel class includes:

New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas; Philadelphia City Councilwoman Cindy Bass; Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush; Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, Kevin Cotter; Assistant Majority Whip of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, Jon Echols; Minority Whip of the Montana House of Representatives, Jenny Eck; Illinois State Treasurer Mike Frerichs; Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum;

Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea; Washington State Senator Andy Hill; South Carolina State Representative Jenny Horne; Speaker Pro Tem of the Louisiana House of Representatives, Walt Leger; Syracuse Mayor Stephanie Miner; Indiana State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell; California State Senator Janet Nguyen; Florida State Representative Jose Oliva;

Speaker Pro Tem of the Colorado House of Representatives, Dan Pabon; Speaker Pro Tem of the Oregon House of Representatives, Tobias Read; Majority Leader of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Dave Reed; Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes; Illinois Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti; Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf; Delaware State Representative Bryon Short, and Ohio State Representative Ryan Smith.

For more information on The Aspen Institute Rodel Fellowship program, visit <u>AspenInstitute.org</u>.